

AID WATCH

Action on Aid, Trade & Debt



G20 Activist Kit

What is the G20?

The G20 was formed as an extension of the G-7 group in the wake of the South East Asian financial crisis. The G-7 (now G-8) consists of the core rich countries from the US, the European Community and Russia.

The group was initiated from a G-7 finance minister meeting with idea to push the underlying principles of the G-7's established economic policy. In their words the G-20 is intended to be "a new mechanism for informal dialogue on key economic and financial policy issues among systemically significant economies and to achieve stable sustainable world growth that benefits all" (G-7 1999).

Membership is open to finance ministers and reserve bank governors of the world's largest economies, and also includes the President of the World Bank, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, and a representative from the European Union and the European Central Bank. The chairs of the International Monetary and Financial Committee and Development Committee of the IMF and World Bank also attend.

As a network of influence, the G20 does not have staff or a secretariat of its own, and lacks the decision making structures that are present in other international organizations. In this regard the meetings work as a point of persuasion through which the G-8 consolidates its' positions and opens dialogue in a semi-informal setting.

The activities of the group are focused around closed annual meetings, conferences and seminars, which are held throughout the year in a host member nation. While concentrating on furthering the established market economy at the meetings, the group also has on its agenda environmental, debt and migration issues. In 2004 the G-20 members agreed

to adopt an 'Accord for sustained Growth' which postulates the importance on maintaining the perpetuation of the market and development through such mechanisms as fiscal discipline, trade and capital liberalization, competition, and a flexible labour market.

The G20 is chaired by a different member nation each year -- in 2005 it was hosted by China, where commitment to the Accord was reaffirmed, alongside commitment to the Millennium Development Goals and poverty reduction.

This year the Australian Treasurer Peter Costello is the host. From all reports he is extremely pleased to have the G-20 meeting in Melbourne.

Where G20 fits in globally

by Rodney Vlais

What's going to be discussed at the G20?

The primary goal of the G20 is to discuss and develop policies that promote the "high and sustainable growth" of the global economy. It does this in part through promoting policies consistent with the G20 Accord for Sustained Growth which stresses a range of neoliberal policies, including:

- The elimination of restrictions on the international movement of capital
- Deregulation and Privatisation
- Flexible labour market conditions
- Enforcement of intellectual and other private property rights
- Creating a business climate conducive to foreign direct investment
- Global trade liberalisation (through the WTO and bilateral free trade

agreements)

What influence does it have? While the G20 is often described as an informal space for discussing ideas and developing policies, G20 discussions can have a significant influence on the policies and activities of the World Bank and the IMF. Given the horrible destruction these institutions cause to people and environments throughout the world, and the tremendous threat they pose by pushing corporate-led globalisation and 'developments' that fuel dangerous climate change, G20 meetings have a dangerous influence on the future of our planet.

The G20 is a forum in which leading officials from the overdeveloped world attempt to court the governments of the 'emerging economies' of Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, South Africa and Turkey into an "international consensus" of privatisation, trade liberalisation and market fundamentalism.

What would the G20 be doing if it really was serious about reforming the World Bank/IMF?

The G20 claims to be interested in reforming these international financial institutions to loosen their control by the United States and the European Union. Peter Costello is reportedly keen to press for Asian countries in particular to have a greater role in their governance.

However, the communiqué arising from the 2005 G20 meeting in China stressed that the IMF should exercise "enhanced surveillance of the global economy", and that the macroeconomic policies of the IMF and World Bank

should continue. Far from reforming these institutions, the G20 supports the grip that these institutions have on impoverished nations across the globe.

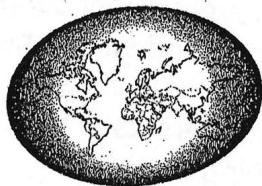
If the G20 was serious about "building and sustaining prosperity", it would dismantle these institutions and replace them with other agencies that supported relocation, self-determination and regional self-reliance, and which limited the power of capital, private property rights and transnational corporations to prey on communities and the environment - but this would all be going against the vested interests of who and what the G20 really represents.

What would the G20 be doing if it was serious about addressing global energy issues?

The 2006 G20 meeting will include a strong focus on the challenges to economic growth posed



Countries participating in the G20



Membership of the G20 is based on the G7/8 but also includes other strategically important countries (economies). By including countries from the global south the G20 proclaims to be a more legitimate multilateral voice than the G8 (a criticism of many activists & countries). However, the G20 underscores the fact that the G7 does not want to leave the reform of the international financial system to the IMF or World Bank, where developing countries have an institutionalized role.

Members are:

Argentina
Australia
Brazil
Canada
China
France
Germany
India
Indonesia
Italy
Japan
South Korea
Mexico
Russia
Saudi Arabia
South Africa
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States
European Union

The Managing Director of the IMF and the President of the World Bank, as well as the Chairpersons of the International Monetary and Financial Committee and Development Committee of the IMF and World Bank, participate fully in the discussions.

Each country is represented by its Finance Minister.

G20 – Action on Aid or an adjunct to the growth agenda?

In 2006 the G20 has 'Aid Effectiveness' on the agenda.

The G20 has a mandate to monitor the development cooperation policies both amongst its member countries and within the International Financial Institutions of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF). It considers itself to be a vital conduit between developed and developing countries.

However since the primary concern of the G20 is the financial architecture of the global economic system, their position on 'aid effectiveness' streamlines very carefully within the broader institutional and market prerogatives of economic growth.

What is aid 'effectiveness'? Common sense tells us that aid effectiveness should concern how effective the expenditure of development assistance – aid – is in reducing the levels of poverty in global south nations.

However the language of 'aid effectiveness' for institutions like the G20 is explicitly tied to the creation of public and economic environments for growth and private investment. It is often associated with creating 'strong democratic institutions' or 'lean private sectors' – and these are very often the conditions placed on poor countries in order to receive increased aid, cancellation of debt or indeed new loans.

History tells us that the benefits of growth have never been shared equally by societies. And when action is urgently required to assist the poorest of the poor, the growth lead agenda will clearly deliver more benefits to rich countries desperate for the resources and markets of poor countries.

Two Examples:

- Australia is currently instituting performance based aid model which requires Papua New Guinea to meet certain 'governance' parameters in order to receive additional aid
- The much hyped HIPC II (Highly Indebted Poor Countries) program under which the G8 debt relief initiative operates, places significant conditions on the 18 countries involved in order for them to receive debt relief.

This narrow approach will never satisfy the core poverty objectives of the Millennium Development Goals. With their focus on Universal Primary Education, gender equality, reduction of child mortality (to name a few) these goals clearly require dedicated funding to the communities impacted – not just the government controlling the purse strings.

The G20 must do more than simply acknowledge other principles for aid effectiveness than economic growth, and recognise that community driven projects must also be the focus of the aid increases expected for countries to move (however slowly) towards fulfilling the millennium development goals.

Our demands of the G20

- To pressure governments to openly timetable their progress to meet the millennium development goal of 0.7% GDP as ODA (something Aust Government wont do)
- Extend Debt cancellation to 67 of the nations poorest countries.
- To pursue genuine reform of the IMF and World Bank organisational structures such that they become truly democratic, accountable institutions.

The Need for IMF/World Bank Reform

By Michael Cebon

The first item on the G20's agenda in Melbourne this November will be "Reform of Bretton Woods Institutions" (the IMF & World Bank), including "how countries can continue to reform key global economic institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank." This will be a key point at which to push for specific reforms of these institutions, particularly their imposition of "Structural Adjustment Programs" (SAPs) on developing countries which have destroyed industries, caused unemployment, wreaked havoc on the environment and massively increased the debt burden for the poor.

Typical features of structural adjustment programs include:

- Reducing government spending - usually cutting services such as health, education and welfare, with the aim of controlling inflation.
- Privatising and deregulating public enterprises - with the idea that markets would be more efficient at allocating national resources.
- Import and investment liberalisation - cutting tariffs and reducing investment regulation
- Currency Devaluation - with the aim of making exports (to service

- foreign debt) cheaper, and imports more expensive
- Reducing wage levels and workers' protections - to increase employment and attract investment

These SAP-style policies have been imposed on over 100 developing countries since the 1980s, and are widely seen as being a major cause of poverty, inequality and environmental destruction in many countries.

Demands for reform of the IMF and World Bank to end conditionality and structural adjustment policies have been commonplace among those directly affected by their policies, in scores of countries. But in recent times, these calls have also been echoed in the halls of power in Washington and London.

Following the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis (largely induced by IMF-imposed structural adjustment) the

US Congress commissioned a review of IMF, World Bank, WTO and regional development bank policies. The "Meltzer Commission" reported back to Congress in 2000, calling

for massive reform of the IMF and World Bank.

Among other recommendations, the Commission called for the IMF to end long-term and 'structural adjustment'



WORLD BANK BLEEDING THE POOR

lending altogether. This would include an end to "detailed conditionality (often including dozens of conditions) that has burdened IMF programs in recent years and made such programs unwieldy, highly conflictive, time consuming to negotiate, and often ineffectual." Neither the Clinton nor present Bush administration has acted on the Meltzer Commission's recommendations regarding the IMF.

Five years later, British Prime Minister Tony Blair's "Commission For Africa" report made a similar call, strongly criticising the IMF and World Bank for their policies in Africa, asserting that "evidence shows that IMF and World Bank economic policy in the 1980s and early 1990s took little account of how these policies would potentially impact on poor people in Africa". The Commission called for an end to the use of most conditions in IMF loans to African countries, recommending that "both the Bank and the Fund need to micro-manage less and reduce the amount of conditions they place on poor countries."

Remarkably, the British government has responded to the recommendations of the Commission, and has taken strong action to relax structural adjustment conditions in its

own aid programs. The new program was announced in March in a UK Department for International Development report entitled "Partnerships for Poverty Reduction: Rethinking Conditionality". The report finds that "some conditionality

has promoted reforms that have made poor people worse off" and quotes Tanzanian President Mkapa as saying "Development cannot be imposed. It can only be facilitated. It requires ownership, participation and empowerment, not harangues and dictates."

According to the report, the only conditions which the British aid program will now impose on recipients will be pressure to avoid high levels of corruption or human rights abuses. Perhaps most importantly, the report calls on the IMF and World Bank to follow the UK's lead in removing privatisation and market liberalisation conditions from their programs.

But these high-level calls for an end to damaging structural adjustment conditionality have so far fallen on deaf ears. The IMF & World Bank continue to push their loan conditions on the most vulnerable countries. So when the G20 nations meet in Melbourne in November, Global Trade Watch will be one of many groups pushing their finance ministers to accept these demands for reform of the IMF & World Bank. The fate of millions of people rests on winning this fight.

G20 & Skilled Worker Migration

At the November 2006 G20 in Melbourne the issue of skill shortages and skilled worker migration will be agenda item. This item is not something to be taken lightly. With the push for the deregulation of capital markets and the opening up of developing countries to foreign investment, the G8's power through meetings such as the G20 is in laying the path for other nations to follow, especially on such terms as decreasing national investment and limiting state trade barriers. The G8 members also make up a large proportion of the financial backing of the IMF, which enforces similar economic policies to the G8 through its Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs).

In the expansion of deregulated market capital it is commonly recognised that those countries with large import markets and high valued export production are best placed to embrace the impact of a deregulated world economy (Bailin, 2005: 135-141). The rich core maintains its wealth in this model through protectionism and mutual preferential treatment whilst preaching the equity of the free market. This structure perpetuates of rich/poor country divide within the chains of production.

The IMF recommends as part of the SAPs that developing countries concentrate on primary industries. Raw materials are exported as intra industry trade to foreign investors such as transnational corporations, to be processed into high value products. The result is the 'repatriation' of the profits of development investment back to the wealthy developing countries (the so called benefactors) with little improvement to the developing country (Donkor 2005: 42).

By maintaining primary production and stifling high valued industrial exports the conditions of poverty generally remain intact (countries such as Singapore are an exception). Given the tendency of labour flows to follow capital flows, there is considerable migration of skilled workers from developing regions to the rich core countries. This movement increases the poverty of the developing nations.

At the same time we are seeing an increasing amount of policy based on temporary skilled migration workers entering countries such as Australia and the US. Under these conditions the alienation of migrant workers is maintained whilst their services are sought out. This is beneficial in two ways, firstly in reducing skills shortages and secondly in allowing money to flow back into expatriated countries. What is worrying about this trend is that the concentration on temporary skilled worker migration and the establishment of a 'global pool' of generally skilled, managerial and Information technology workers ignores the effects that these financial flows and liberalizing programs can have on unskilled workers (Espenshade, 2001: 136). Equally as problematic is the systemic ignorance of worker rights resulting from of this style of movement, as evidenced with Japan (Iredale, 2001).

The preferential treatment in trade between rich countries, and the continuing inequality of production cycles guided by neoliberal economics simply perpetuates the wealth and power of the developing of the world. This in turn simply furthers the skill inequality by promoting programs that extract skilled workers from poor nations. What is increasingly emerging is the notion of the economic refugee. This is an idea that is ignored within the current order. While wars, military coups, dictatorships, and ethnic and

religious conflicts are the cause of many of the over 20 million annual refugees in the world, increased poverty caused by factors such as the IMF SAPs and the G8 neoliberal leadership in their lending and investment merely heightens refugee situation. Out of all refugees, 20% make it to first world countries. Most move to states that 'contend with internal social and welfare problems' of their own (Teichmann, 2003). The highly restrictive nature of immigration legislation in rich countries such as those in the G8 further exacerbates poverty by preventing the movement of people from impoverished regions. While neoliberal economists champion the supposed benefits of the free movement of capital and goods, they allow the free movement of labour only when it suits their interests – i.e. only when the skills the workers possess are in need by their economies.

To limit G20 discussion to skilled workers ignores the contribution rich countries policies have in regard to contributing to the ongoing effects of deregulation, debt and war. In this regard the line between a migrant and a refugee is blurring. The Refugee Convention (1951) at this point in time does not recognise people who are seeking to improve their economic condition by changing countries as a refugee (Teichmann, 2003). An economic refugee directly affected by war and poverty may have difficulty arguing their case, depending on where they apply for asylum under this condition. In signalling skilled worker migration as an issue, the G20 is simultaneously doing too much and not enough. Not enough in terms of not increasing the amount of refugees allowed to come into rich countries, not enough in reducing the limitations on the classification of refugees; and yet on the other hand, too much, in regard to pushing for skilled migrants to fill up their skills shortage while creating shortages elsewhere.

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Espenshade, Thomas, J. 2001 High-end immigrants and the shortage of skilled labor Office of Population Research, Princeton University Academic Publishers. Population Research and Policy Review 20 Netherlands.

Iredale, Robyn. 2000 Migration Policies For the Highly Skilled in the Asia-Pacific Region. International Migration Review, Volume 34, No. 3 (Autumn 2000)

Teichmann, Iris. 2003. in Critical Issues in Development Studies. Yale Press.

The G8, G20 & Climate Change

Despite the continuing refusal of Australia and the United States to the Kyoto protocol, the first binding global agreement on greenhouse gas reduction came into force in February 2005, committing the world's industrial nations to reducing their emissions by a mere 5% of 1990 levels by 2012. What was years in the making, the Kyoto target was only ever intended to be a first step. Indeed, the science tells us that limiting climate change to a sub-catastrophic will require reductions of the order of 60 - 75% compared to 1990 levels by the middle of this century. Clearly, strengthening and tightening a binding international agreement to deliver the deep cuts in greenhouse pollution should be a pressing priority for the world's leaders, and the subject of vigorous discussion and action at every available opportunity.

After years of denial and scepticism from vested interests, there's no denying that the reality of climate change is accepted, and the issue is well and truly on the agenda for our political leaders. But as the end of the protocol's first commitment period nears, the leaders of the world's largest economies appear intent upon maintaining the privileged position of their fossil fuel industries, even as the reality and enormity of climate change begin to hit home.

As concern over climate change mounts, international economic fora – such as G8, G-20 and APEC continue to be dominated by the interests of the big polluters. They have become a platform for a series of false solutions to climate change that appear designed, to varying degrees, to entrench the vested interests of fossil fuel industry. In particular by opening new markets for coal exports under the guise of "cleaner" fossil fuels. The most prominent of these false solutions is carbon capture and storage (CCS) – a highly speculative technology that hinges on the notion that carbon dioxide can be captured, transported and permanently stored in the earth's crust, so prevented from entering the atmosphere – all at a cost that will maintain the fossil fuel industry's unfair price advantage over renewables. As Government and industry grow increasingly anxious to be seen to be taking action on climate change, there is every risk that the false solutions on offer will close the narrowing window of opportunity for real action on climate change.

In January 2006, the Australian Government hosted the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, which brought together six of the world's biggest coal exporters and users. Working on the principle that voluntary agreements and market-based solutions could deliver greenhouse gas

reductions, the stated objective of the AP6 meeting was to assist the development

and transfer of climate-friendly technologies. In practice, it amounted to little more than a sales pitch for so-called "clean coal" and nuclear power.

In November 2006, the G-20 meeting will be hosted by Australia, again bringing together the world's

biggest exporters and consumers of coal. While the G-20 has, thus far, made little explicit reference to climate change, energy policy is firmly on the agenda for the Melbourne meeting.

At their July 2005 Gleneagles meeting, the G8 – effectively the G-20's "parent body" - issued a communiqué acknowledging the reality of human induced climate change, including a pledge to "act with resolve and urgency" to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but failed to set measurable targets or timeframes in which to do so.

While making passing reference to the Kyoto protocol and renewable energy, the communiqué placed its strongest emphasis on "efforts to make electricity generation from coal and other fossil fuels cleaner and more efficient",

including a ringing endorsement of as yet unproven carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technologies.



The G8 also pledged to invite the World Bank and other Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to "increase dialogue with borrowers on energy issues" and to work with Export Credit Agencies to enhance

the economic viability of cleaner and energy efficient projects – both worrying prospects, given the G8's emphasis on "cleaner" fossil fuels and the absence of measurable targets and timelines for emissions reductions and the track records of the financial institutions in question.

MDBs including the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank, and Export Credit Agencies, like the Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC), play a key role in financing fossil-fuel related energy projects, including coal-fired power stations, in the Asia Pacific region.

While the ADB's energy policy states that the Bank will promote the uptake of renewable energy, in 2003, out of eight energy projects co-financed by the ABD, only one was for a clean energy development. And while the World Bank's mission statement makes

explicit reference to sustainable development, in 2002-03, just one in seventeen of major energy projects financed by the Bank were related to renewable energy and energy efficiency.

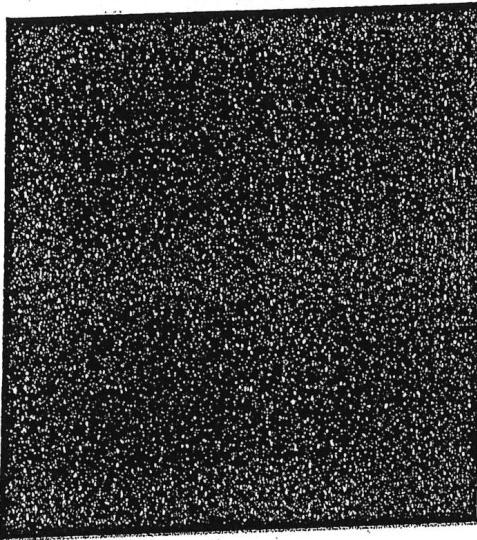
While the Australian Government has justified its failure to ratify Kyoto by complaining that developing nations are not required to meet emissions reduction targets under the protocol, the Government has continued to fund coal-related projects in developing countries through its own Export Credit Agency, the Export Finance Insurance Corporation and funding for renewable energy projects has all but dried up.

The communiqué from the G-20's last meeting in China acknowledged the importance of energy conservation and efficiency, including "adopting and transferring new technologies, ... [and] developing alternative and renewable energy sources". However, the document contained no mention or acknowledgement of climate change, only expressing concern over the impacts of volatile oil prices on inflation.

The work programme for the 2006 G-20 meeting, to be hosted in Melbourne, Australia in November, puts energy (if not climate change) firmly on the agenda. Noting that

industrialisation is driving increased demand for energy, the G-20, the communiqué states, "comprising major global resource suppliers and resource users, is in a unique position to consider the broader effects of changing natural resource markets and the implications for economic growth and development."

Energy-related issues for discussion identified in the programme include: the changing demand and supply for energy, improving the efficiency of markets and the impact of resources on development. Climate change does not rate a mention. Meanwhile, as the coal-rich host of this year's G-20 meeting appears unable to do any better than a 2.5% target for clean, renewable energy, China – whose growing economic power prompted the formation of the G-20 in the first place – has legislated for a renewable energy target of 15%.



CARNIVAL *against* CAPITALISM

GLOBAL CORPORATE CAPITALISM IS A DYSTOPIAN SYSTEM,
A SYSTEM WITH SCANT REGARD FOR THE INTERESTS OF HUMAN KIND.

IT HAS CORRODED AND CORRUPTED OUR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP, AND THE LEADERSHIP OF MANY OTHER
NATIONS. OUR ACTION SHOULD BE SEEN AS A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN THIS LEADERSHIP. AN ACT
OF DISBELIEF AND DISCONTINUEDNESS. AND A DEMAND THAT OUR DEMOCRACY RETURN TO VALUING THE
INTERESTS OF HUMAN NEEDS AND THE ENVIRONMENT ABOVE ALL ELSE.

THE 2006 G20 MEETING OF FINANCE MINISTERS, RESERVE BANK GOVERNORS AND HEADS OF THE WORLD BANK
AND IMF WILL TAKE PLACE IN MELBOURNE ON NOVEMBER 18-19. THIS WILL BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT
GATHERING IN MELBOURNE OF PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR PUSHING CORPORATE-LED GLOBALISATION.
HELD AGAINST THEM AND CAPITALISM SINCE THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM IN 2003. LET'S SAY HELLO.



NOVEMBER 18-19, 2006 MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA.
THE G20 IS COMING TO TOWN!

What's Next? – APEC 2007

By Kirsten Casper

In September 2007, world leaders from some of the largest economies will gather in Sydney for the APEC summit. John Howard has said that this will be the most important meeting ever held in Australia, with participants to include the US President and prime ministers from throughout the Asia Pacific, including China, Japan and Indonesia. It is anticipated that the main summit will be preceded by over 100 meetings to be held around Australia.

By getting organised now, we can take advantage of the 100 days of meeting and the upcoming elections to ensure that the public's demand for just, equitable, safe, and clean energy future is heard by the people on the inside and reclaims the public debate before the critical elections.

What is APEC?

The Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is a group of Pacific Rim countries which work, behind closed doors, to develop economic and political ties. In 2000, APEC countries collectively consumed 60% of the world's total energy and generated over 61% of the world's energy-related

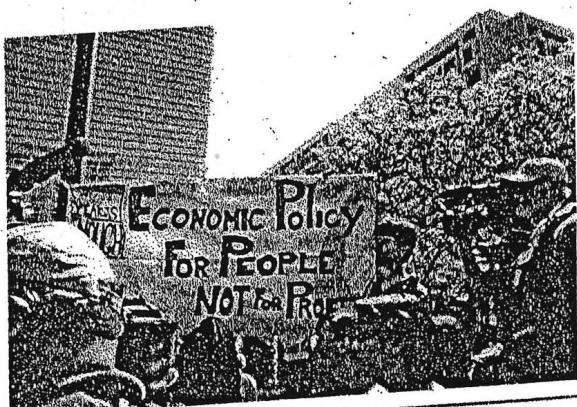
carbon emissions.

Every year culminates in an economic leaders - a.k.a. heads of state - meeting in November in one of the APEC countries. These meetings occur without any input from civil society and are heavily lobbied by energy corporations such as BHP, Rio Tinto, Chevron and Woodside.

What's the threat?

The informal power of APEC is quite significant in its ability to influence the region and to grease the wheels for the business-as-usual approach that drives unregulated growth and free trade.

APEC is not a UN body and has no treaty obligations required of its participants. Decisions made within APEC are reached by consensus and commitments during the meetings are undertaken on a voluntary basis. There are several committees and working groups. Behind the scenes, the most important



decisions are bilateral negotiations tying individual countries. It is a very secretive body and its negotiations are neither transparent to the public nor open in any way.

Asia Pacific Energy Choices or Energy Crisis?

Energy is one of the many working groups. The 2007 APEC Energy Working Group agenda appears to be another platform to promote the Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, a.k.a. the 'Coal Pact' – a closed door industry and government talkfest that will result in lining the pockets of the fossil fuel companies and undermining the Kyoto Protocol - the only international agreement in operation that reduces greenhouse gas pollution. APEC may also be another soapbox for the uranium industry.

A strong public campaign is necessary to ensure that any agreements which are made shift energy investments towards renewable energy and energy efficiency rather than to nuclear power and so-called 'clean coal' and do not undermine the second commitment period of the Kyoto protocol.

What can we do?

With public pressure these meetings can be reframed to be a debate about Asia Pacific's Energy Choices and not Asia Pacific's Energy Crisis.

By taking action, we can demonstrate that coal and nuclear power are dinosaurs of the 20th century, and the future can be fair, equitable, clean and safe.

There is no better time than 2007, during the federal election, to draw the line in the sand and make it clear to John Howard and the leaders from other countries that climate change is the most important issue facing humanity, and urgent action must be taken.

Let's get organised!

1. Learn more and organise a teach-in at your uni or community.
2. Form an affinity group and start planning creative forms of civil disobedience.
3. Join a growing network of concerned citizens working towards a clean safe future for Australia; email: zoe.moore@gmail.com. Please put "APEC" in the subject line.
4. Contact the following organisations:

Australian Student Environment Network
www.asen.org.au

Australian Fair Trade Investment Network
www.aftinet.org.au

AID/WATCH www.aidwatch.org.au
Global Trade Watch www.tradewatchoz.org

Friends of the Earth Australia www.foe.org.au

How to get involved

Organising Groups

Melbourne: Stop G20. Meeting regularly. Visit www.stopg20.org for details of how to get involved in this group.

Sydney: Aid/Watch is a hub of information about G20 activities in Sydney and the participation of Sydneysiders in the G20 mobilisation. Visit www.aidwatch.org.au, email debt@aidwatch.org.au or call the office on 02 9557 8944 to find out what you can get involved in.

Canberra: Mutiny are organising education sessions and transport to Melbourne. Contact: rodney@foe.org.au

Adelaide: Friends of the Earth Adelaide. Contact joel.catchlove@foe.org.au

Students: Australian Student Environment Network (ASEN) are organising convergences, non violent direct action training and assisting affinity groups. Check out www.asen.org.au for details.

Make Poverty History: Groups set up throughout Australia. Visit www.makepovertyhistory.org.au to find out your nearest group & events you can attend

Do It Your Own Way

Be an individual or become part of an affinity group that participates in the G20 mobilisation and related actions. Keep an eye on the organising group websites for details of what's on where and join in. If you have your own idea for an event why not list it on www.active.org.au so that others can join you.

Don't Forget To Bring Others With You

We are stronger as a collective together. Our chances of influencing the G20 agenda are dependant on how much public pressure we can bring to bear on the participating member countries. So the more the merrier!

Australian groups involved

AID/WATCH is a not for profit activist organisation monitoring and campaigning on Australian overseas aid, trade and debt policies and programs. www.aidwatch.org.au

Global Trade Watch is an Australian not for profit organisation that has put out an excellent booklet on the WTO and how corporate globalisation affects Australia. Get a copy at www.tradewatchoz.org

The Make Poverty History Coalition is dedicated to making world leaders live up to their promises and make a breakthrough on poverty. www.makepovertyhistory.org.au

Friends of the Earth Australia is a grassroots network, based on volunteer and worker collectives, dedicated to achieving environmental justice and an equitable and sustainable future. www.foe.org.au

Oxfam is one of Australia's leading agencies working with communities around the world for solutions to poverty and social injustice. www.oxfam.org.au

AFTINET is a national network of over 90 community organisations concerned about trade and investment policy. www.aftinet.org.au

Further Resources

The official G20 website is <http://www.g20.org>

Check the Australian Indymedia website for media and events details in your capital city. www.active.org.au

The G8 information center provides comprehensive access to official G20 publications and communiqus. www.g7.utoronto.ca/g20

Focus on the Global South – an Ngo which strives to create a distinct and cogent link between development at the grassroots and the “macro” levels. www.focusweb.org

More about the Bretton Woods institutions can be found at the website of the Bretton Woods Project www.brettonwoodsproject.org.



Your Legal Rights

Our rights to protest, demonstrate and take part in political activities are recognised by the International Declaration of Human Rights (1948) as well as International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966) and other covenants.

If you are concerned about your legal rights at a protest check out www.activis-trights.org.au/legalsupport.asp for detailed resources, information and further links to a variety of legal activist support groups.

Stop G20

Organizing the response to the G20 meeting is going to take time, energy, enthusiasm, resources and most importantly, people!

You can visit the website, <http://www.stopg20.org/node/26>, which is an open portal for people to find out about affinity groups, organizing meeting times, and events before and during the mobilization.

Events Calendar

G20 Mobilisation

Nov 4-15

"The G20 is Coming to Town!" creative street theatre at various times and places to build talk around town about the need to quarantine the G20 in the 2 weeks leading up to the mobilization.

Location: Throughout Melbourne

Details: www.stopg20.org, www.active.org.au

'Miles Per Hour' Convergence

Nov 4-15

Coming together of people across the country by bus, boat, train, plane and bicycle. Contact Madeliene Penman for group transport details.

Contact: penman@theoaktree.org
www.makepovertyhistory.org.au

AID/WATCH Film night

Wednesday, Nov 15

Films on Debt, Multilateral Institutions and how they impact upon people in the majority world. If you are interested in screening a film contact AID/WATCH.

Location: TBA

Contact: debt@aidwatch.org.au

Civil Society forum

Thursday, Nov 16

The theme of this forum will be looking at development economics with a focus on justice for the poor.

Location: Melbourne Town Hall

Details: www.makepovertyhistory.org.au

Generation2015 Concert & Carnival

Friday, Nov 17

Street Carnival to Make Neoliberalism History and Generation 2015 Concert featuring Australian indigenous, non-indigenous and overseas acts.

Location: Sidney Myer Music Bowl and surrounds.

Details: www.makepovertyhistory.org.au for concert details
www.stopg20.org.au for carnival details

G20 Day of Action

Saturday, Nov 18

Main Day of Action involving affinity groups focusing on their issues of concern including an AID/WATCH Action group.

Location: G20 venue TBA

Details: www.stopg20.org.au, www.aidwatch.org.au

Day of Action after party

Saturday, Nov 18

A chance to get together and celebrate the success of the convergence. Hosted by AID/WATCH at a venue to be announced.

Location: TBA

Contact: aidwatch@aidwatch.org.au

G20 Quarantine

Sunday, Nov 19

Action continues at the G20 venue

Forum: Your World ~ Your Future

Sunday, Nov 19

A counterpoint to the G20 and a chance for interested citizens to get together to discuss globalisation issues. Hosted by the Melbourne Social Forum

Location: CERES environment park, Brunswick East

Details: www.melbournesocialforum.org.au

AID/WATCH is the only independent organisation dedicated to analysing the social, economic and environmental effects of the Australian Aid program. We monitor and campaign on Australian overseas aid, trade and debt issues, and work to ensure that aid-funding reaches the right people, communities and their environments.

We do not deliver aid, but work to promote social change, transparency and accountability in the delivery of Australian aid. Our work with communities who are affected by Australian aid is essential to our campaigns. We do not accept donations from governments, political parties or corporations, however we welcome the financial support of concerned individuals and philanthropic organisations.

Many Thanks to...

*All those people
whose hard work
went into the
production of this
Kit. Especially our
invaluable
AID/WATCH
volunteers:*

Dee

Susan

Ozzie

Arya

Ben

Dave

Gareth

Adam

and the contributors

Michael

Rodney

Kristen

Iain

and Gareth.

AID/WATCH Membership & Donation Form

ABN 97 491 078 647
19 Eve St, Erskineville, NSW 2043
PH (+61) 02 9557 8944 Fax (+61) 02 9557 9822
Email: membership@aidwatch.org.au
www.aidwatch.org.au

Name:
Organisation:
Address:
Suburb:
State:
Phone:
Email:

Postcode:
Mobile:

Tick if you do not want to be on our mailing list.

AID/WATCH Supporter

I want to support AID/WATCH by pledging a regular tax-deductible donation of

\$20 \$50 \$100 Other

Monthly Quarterly Yearly

OR: I want to become an AID/WATCH supporter with a one-off tax deductible donation of: \$

Annual Membership (Not tax deductible)

I want to become a voting member of AID/WATCH

\$25 Concession \$50 Waged

\$100 Organisation

Signature

PAYMENT

Please tick the payment method you require:

Cheque Visa / MasterCard / AMEX

Name on card:

Card Number:

Expiry date:

Signature:

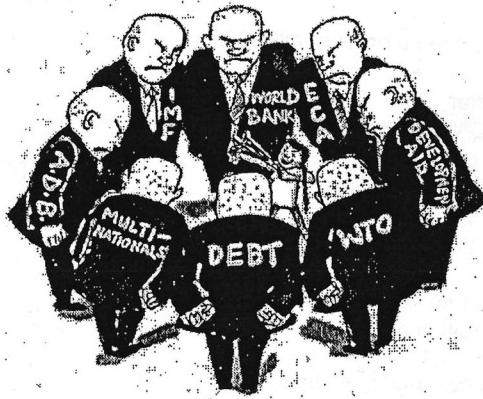
Total: \$

Receipts: Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible and will be received. AID/WATCH Supporters will receive an initial confirmation of their pledge and will then receive a summary receipt at the end of the financial year.

We do not accept donations from governments, political parties or corporations, however we welcome the financial support of concerned individuals.

To maintain our independence your support is crucial.

To contribute to our campaigning fill out this donation form.



AID WATCH

Action on Aid, Trade

19 Eve Street Erskineville NSW 2043

Phone..: +61 2 9557 8944

Fax..: +61 2 9557 9822

Email..: aidwatch@aidwatch.org.au

www.aidwatch.org.au